

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, September 21, 2016, commencing at 6:00 p.m.**

**Present:** J. Bancarz, Chair  
K. Fleury  
S. Germain, Councillor  
M. Giles  
M. Hodson  
K. Jenkins  
K. McGrath, Councillor  
A. Vinni, Councillor

**Absent:** M. Farrington, Vice-Chair

**Administration:** J. Brown, Supervisor, Legislative Services  
A. Rogers, Senior Legislative Officer  
D. Soucy, Legislative Officer

**Call To Order**

Chair J. Bancarz called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and sent regrets on behalf of Maggie Farrington, Vice-Chair.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by M. Hodson that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**1. Minutes of Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee Meeting - September 14, 2016**

Moved by K. Jenkins that the minutes of the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee Meeting held on September 14, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Presentations**

**2. Erin O'Neill, Recovery Branch Lead re: FireSmart Update**  
(6:07 p.m. – 6:47 p.m.)

**Erin O'Neill, Recovery Branch Lead, Bernard Schmitte, Forest Area Manager and Paul St. John, Fire Prevention Officer, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry,** presented an update on the FireSmart program, including hazardous tree removal, dozer guard areas, the proposed three-year FireSmart implementation strategy and expansion of the existing FireSmart Committee.

**3. Melanie Soler, Canadian Red Cross and John Evans, United Way re: Community Partnerships Table**  
(6:48 p.m. – 7:12 p.m.)

**Melanie Soler, Associate Vice President, Disaster Management, Canadian Red Cross and John Evans, Board Vice President and Community Investment Committee Chair, United Way**, presented an overview of the Community Partnerships Table, which will act as an advisory group for evaluating various community organizations' grant requests for the available \$53 million in funding for wildfire-related initiatives.

**4. Crystal Lewis-Wilton and Greg Elsasser, Uninsured Destroyed Housing Strategy Working Group re: Uninsured and Underinsured Rebuild and Repair Options**  
(7:13 p.m. – 7:37 p.m.)

**Crystal Lewis-Wilton and Greg Elsasser, Uninsured Destroyed Housing Strategy Working Group**, presented the concept of a program to assist residents who are unable to rebuild or repair wildfire damaged or destroyed homes due to being uninsured or underinsured.

**New and Unfinished Business**

**5. 2016 Budget Request - Year Remaining**  
(7:38 p.m. – 8:11 p.m.)

**Dana Woodworth, Interim Recovery Team Leader, and Mark Power, Project Services Lead**, provided an overview of the 2016 budget request to support the operations of the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee and the Recovery Task Force to implement the objectives and goals outlined in the Wood Buffalo Wildfire Recovery Campaign Plan.

Moved by M. Giles:

1. That the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee (WBRC) recommend to Council that funding in the amount of \$7,036,190 be allocated from the 2016 Municipal Operating Budget surplus, if it exists, to support the additional cash flow requirements related to the operations of the WBRC and the Recovery Task Force (RTF); and
2. That in the event this funding cannot be accommodated in the 2016 Municipal Operating Budget surplus, funding be allocated from Emerging Issues Reserve or any other funding source as determined by the Municipality.
3. That the WBRC recommend to Council that the Municipality provide \$26,053,260 in cash-flow requirements to the WBRC and RTF in advance of the formal submission to the Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) for reimbursement.
4. That the WBRC make a submission to the Government of Alberta for an advance in DRP funding.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**6. Land Use Bylaw Amendment - Secondary Suites**

(8:12 p.m. – 8:40 p.m.)

**Erin O’Neill, Recovery Branch Lead, and Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Development Control and Permitting**, provided a summary on proposal by Administration to recommend a Land Use Bylaw amendment to allow secondary suites to be built before the principal dwelling in wildfire impacted areas.

Exit and Return

Councillor S. Germain exited the Chamber at 8:18 p.m. and returned at 8:19 p.m.

Motion Recess

A Motion Recess occurred between 8:19 p.m. and 8:32 p.m.

**Jim Rogers, resident**, spoke in support of secondary suites for all areas of the municipality.

Following the motion recess and delegations, it was agreed that the Committee would receive this verbal update as information only; therefore, no motion was required.

**7. Sub-Committee Reports**

There were no Sub-Committee Reports provided.

**8. Wildfire Recovery Team Update**

(8:41 p.m. – 8:42 p.m.)

**Dana Woodworth, Interim Recovery Team Leader**, provided an update on the various tasks undertaken by the Recovery Task Force to date, including Waterways flood mitigation planning, destroyed and damaged firebreak properties, long-term recovery plan and the 2017 budget.

**Adjournment**

As all scheduled business matters had been concluded, Chair J. Bancarz declared the meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

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Chair

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Chief Legislative Officer